

AMENDMENT TO H.R.
OFFERED BY MR. LEWIS OF GEORGIA

Insert at the appropriate place the following:

1 **SEC. ____ ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES IN**
2 **MEDICARE+CHOICE PROGRAM.**

3 (a) QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM FOCUS ON RA-
4 CIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES.—Section 1852(e)(2) (42
5 U.S.C. 1395w-22(e)(2)) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following: “Such program shall include a separate
7 focus (with respect to all the elements described in para-
8 graph (2)) on racial and ethnic minorities.”.

9 (b) REPORT.—Section 1852(e) (42 U.S.C. 1395w-
10 22(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following new
11 paragraph:

12 “(5) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years
14 after the date of the enactment of this para-
15 graph, and biannually thereafter, the Secretary
16 shall submit to Congress a report regarding
17 how quality assurance programs conducted
18 under this subsection focus on racial and ethnic
19 minorities.

20 “(B) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each such
21 report shall include the following:



1 “(i) A description of the means by
2 which such programs focus on such minori-
3 ties.

4 “(ii) An evaluation of impact of such
5 programs on eliminating health disparities
6 and on improving health outcomes, con-
7 tinuity and coordination of care, manage-
8 ment of chronic conditions, and consumer
9 satisfaction.

10 “(iii) Recommendations on ways to re-
11 duce clinical outcome disparities among ra-
12 cial and ethnic minorities.”.

13 **SEC. . CANCER PREVENTION AND TREATMENT DEM-**
14 **ONSTRATION FOR ETHNIC AND RACIAL MI-**
15 **NORITIES.**

16 (a) DEMONSTRATION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
18 Human Services (in this section referred to as the
19 “Secretary”) shall conduct demonstration projects
20 (in this section referred to as “demonstration
21 projects”) for the purpose of developing models and
22 evaluating methods that—

23 (A) improve the quality of items and serv-
24 ices provided to target individuals in order to



1 facilitate reduced disparities in early detection
2 and treatment of cancer;

3 (B) improve clinical outcomes, satisfaction,
4 quality of life, and appropriate use of medicare-
5 covered services and referral patterns among
6 those target individuals with cancer;

7 (C) eliminate disparities in the rate of pre-
8 ventive cancer screening measures, such as pap
9 smears and prostate cancer screenings, among
10 target individuals; and

11 (D) promote collaboration with community-
12 based organizations to ensure cultural com-
13 petency of health care professionals and lin-
14 guistic access for persons with limited English
15 proficiency.

16 (2) TARGET INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this
17 section, the term “target individual” means an indi-
18 vidual of a racial and ethnic minority group, as de-
19 fined by section 1707 of the Public Health Service
20 Act, who is entitled to benefits under part A, and
21 enrolled under part B, of title XVIII of the Social
22 Security Act.

23 (b) PROGRAM DESIGN.—

24 (1) INITIAL DESIGN.—Not later than 1 year
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-



1 retary shall evaluate best practices in the private
2 sector, community programs, and academic research
3 of methods that reduce disparities among individuals
4 of racial and ethnic minority groups in the preven-
5 tion and treatment of cancer and shall design the
6 demonstration project based on such evaluation.

7 (2) NUMBER AND PROJECT AREAS.—Not later
8 than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this
9 Act, the Secretary shall implement at least 9 dem-
10 onstration projects, including the following:

11 (A) 2 projects for each of the 4 major ra-
12 cial and ethnic minority groups (American Indi-
13 ans (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and
14 Aleuts); Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders;
15 Blacks; and Hispanics. The 2 projects must
16 target different ethnic subpopulations.

17 (B) 1 project within the Pacific Islands.

18 (C) At least 1 project each in a rural area
19 and inner-city area.

20 (2) EXPANSION OF PROJECTS; IMPLEMENTA-
21 TION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT RESULTS.—If
22 the initial report under subsection (c) contains an
23 evaluation that demonstration projects—

24 (A) reduce expenditures under the medi-
25 care program; or



1 (B) do not increase expenditures under the
2 medicare program and reduce racial and ethnic
3 health disparities in the quality of health care
4 services provided to target individuals and in-
5 crease satisfaction of beneficiaries and health
6 care providers;

7 the Secretary shall continue the existing demonstra-
8 tion projects and may expand the number of dem-
9 onstration projects.

10 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
12 the date the Secretary implements the initial dem-
13 onstration projects, and biannually thereafter, the
14 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report regard-
15 ing the demonstration projects.

16 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report under
17 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

18 (A) A description of the demonstration
19 projects.

20 (B) An evaluation of—

21 (i) the cost-effectiveness of the dem-
22 onstration projects;

23 (ii) the quality of the health care serv-
24 ices provided to target individuals under
25 the demonstration projects; and



1 (iii) beneficiary and health care pro-
2 vider satisfaction under the demonstration
3 projects.

4 (C) Any other information regarding the
5 demonstration projects that the Secretary de-
6 termines to be appropriate.

7 (d) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall waive
8 compliance with the requirements of title XVIII of the So-
9 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) to such extent
10 and for such period as the Secretary determines is nec-
11 essary to conduct demonstration projects.

12 (e) FUNDING.—

13 (1) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

14 (A) STATE PROJECTS.—Except as provided
15 in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall pro-
16 vide for the transfer from the Federal Hospital
17 Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supple-
18 mentary Insurance Trust Fund under title
19 XVIII of the Social Security Act, in such pro-
20 portions as the Secretary determines to be ap-
21 propriate, of such funds as are necessary for
22 the costs of carrying out the demonstration
23 projects.

24 (B) TERRITORY PROJECTS.—In the case of
25 a project described in subsections (b)(2)(B),

1 amounts shall be available only as provided in
2 any Federal law making appropriations for the
3 territories.

4 (2) LIMITATION.—In conducting demonstration
5 projects, the Secretary shall ensure that the aggre-
6 gate payments made by the Secretary do not exceed
7 the sum of the amount which the Secretary would
8 have paid if the demonstration projects were not im-
9 plemented, plus \$25,000,000.

